

Wethersfield Advisory Parks and Recreation Board  
Harbor Management Commission  
Minutes - Thursday, July 23, 2015

The meeting was held at Town Hall and called to order by Acting Chairperson Dan Silbo at 6:30 p.m. Members present were Bill Derech, Tom Mull and Dan Silbo. Also present were Mike Hurley, Town Council Liaison, Charlie Forsdick, Harbormaster and Kathy Bagley, Director of Parks and Recreation.

A. Public Comments.

Charlie Forsdick noted that the Town received a state permit to install new docks and build a new boat ramp. The permit will expire in the near future. The docks are being installed this season, but no funding exists for the new boat ramp. He asked the board to research funding opportunities to build the new boat ramp. A rough cost estimate for the boat ramp is \$500,000. Ms. Bagley reported that the town can apply for an extension of time for the permit, but it still makes sense to begin exploring funding options.

B. Minutes – June 25, 2015.

Tom Mull moved to approve the minutes of the June 25, 2015 meeting. The motion was seconded by Bill Derech and approved unanimously.

C. Monthly Report –June 2015.

Board members reviewed the monthly report. Acting Chairperson Silbo asked how the new Webb tennis courts were being used. Ms. Bagley reported that she has seen both adults and children using the new courts. The courts play well and have a good surface on them.

D. Letters and Announcements.

1. Wethersfield Teen Theater Production of 'The Music Man' July 23-25 at 7:30 p.m. with a Saturday matinee at 2 p.m. at the Silas Deane Middle School. Ms. Bagley reported that the Teen Theater production opens tonight and runs through Saturday. She has seen the rehearsals and the shows should be great. The teens do a nice job of running their company and being in charge of all aspects of the production.
2. Council Liaison Mike Hurley provided information to the board members on the status of the Charter Revision Commission recommendations. He reported that the Town Council voted to send the changes to the voters, with the exception of the Park Board recommendation. The Charter Revision Commission had voted to change the Park Board from an advisory board to a policy board. The Town Council chose to keep the Park Board advisory and not include it in the charter changes. Board members were pleased with that outcome. They did not want to become a policy making board.

E. Old Business.

1. Webb Tennis Courts.

Ms. Bagley reported that the courts opened on July 13 and they have received a lot of use. See above under monthly report.

2. Cove Boat Launching Fees.

Chairperson Silbo discussed the canoe and kayak fees with members. Councilor Hurley reported that Mr. Woodworth attended the council meeting on July 20 to request the canoe and kayak fees be eliminated. Board members will review the fees.

F. New Business.

1. Cedar Street Park – Traffic Speed.

Acting Chairperson Dan Silbo discussed with board members the speed of cars coming down Cedar Street. He has been there coaching soccer and noticed it. Also parents brought it to his attention. Ms. Bagley had notified the police at the beginning of the season and they put up the electronic sign that notes how fast a car is traveling on the road. It slowed traffic for a while, but now cars are speeding again. Ms. Bagley will notify the Police Department.

G. Board Member Comments.

1. None.

H. Harbor Management Commission.

1. Cove Docks Project.

Acting Chairperson, Dan Silbo asked Ms. Bagley for a report on the project. The contractor expects to start work in the next two weeks and be completed by the end of August. The contractor has been working with the Harbormaster on the Cove mooring locations for the 50 new moorings.

2. Harbormaster Report.

Acting Chairperson Silbo asked Mr. Forsdick to review his report with them. The report was discussed and Mr. Forsdick highlighted a few items. He has contacted the boat owners with moorings in the Cove to let them know about the project. He will coordinate moving their boats off the old moorings and putting them on the new moorings. He still does not have a reliable boat for use this season. He asked if funds were left over from the grant could the town purchase a boat. Ms. Bagley explained that the boat is not eligible for the grant funds but other funds may be available in the Cove Preservation Fund after the dock project is completed. A question came up about dredging the Cove in the future and would the moorings be in the way. Mr. Forsdick explained that if the Cove were dredged the work could be done around the moorings or the moorings could be removed on a temporary basis and once the dredging was completed, they could be re-installed.

I. Motion to Adjourn.

Tom Mull moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 p.m. Motion was seconded by Bill Derech and passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen A. Bagley, Director